



SHAKER HEIGHTS

**Sustainability Committee Agenda
Via Zoom Due to COVID-19
Public Health Emergency
Thursday, March 11, 2021 at 8:00 a.m.**

For the safety of staff and residents, in-person attendance is not permitted. Join the Zoom meeting online as a viewer or listener from a PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone or Android device at <https://zoom.us/j/95689437182?pwd=SUKyVjMvTWxBNDd6cWdKcG1QVl9VUT09>, Password: 33553400; Description: Sustainability Committee; or join by phone at 833-548-0282 (toll free); Webinar ID: 956 8943 7182, Password: 33553400. International numbers available at <https://zoom.us/u/ahwKbeuA>.

1. Approval of the February 11, 2021 meeting minutes.

Documents:

[SUSTAINABILITY MIN 021121.PDF](#)

2. Recap of 2020 Composting Efforts and Future Growth, Zoe Apisdorf, Rust Belt Riders.
3. Planning for 2021.
4. Update on LEED for Cities.
5. Old Business/New Business.

To request an accommodation for a person with a disability, call the City's ADA Coordinator at 216-491-1440, or Ohio Relay Service at 711 for TTY users.



Sustainability Committee Minutes
Thursday, February 11, 2021
8:00 A.M.
Via Zoom Conference

Members Present: Anne Williams, Committee Chair, Council Member
Carmen Franks, Citizen Member
Sean P. Malone, Council Member
Nancy Moore, Council Member
Julianne Potter, Citizen Member
Norman Robbins, Citizen Member

Others Present: David E. Weiss, Mayor
Carmella Williams, Council Member
Jeri E. Chaikin, Chief Administrative Officer
Michael Peters, Sustainability Coordinator
Kara O'Donnell, Principal Planner
John Barber, Friends of Lower Lake
Barbara Bradley, League of Women Voters

The meeting was called to order by Committee Chair Anne Williams at 8:01 A.M.

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Approval of the January 14, 2021 Meeting Minutes

It was moved by Sean Malone and seconded by Nancy Moore that the minutes of the January 14, 2021 meeting be approved as recorded; unanimously passed.

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Review of 2020 and Planning for 2021

The Committee was provided a brief overview of some of the accomplishments in sustainability from 2020. These included: progress on tracking utility usage, energy audits of six City buildings, Green Team energy conservation measures, NOPEC grants, alternative fuel vehicle analysis, electric vehicle charging, CERT Team streetlight project, solar power analysis, LEED for Cities submission (and increased profile nationally), and increased stakeholder engagement.

The Committee was also asked to consider what priorities should be a focus for 2021 for a discussion at the March meeting.

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CITY OF SHAKER HEIGHTS

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Request to Approve Purchase of EV for Recreation Department

The Committee was asked to approve the recommendation to allocate funds for a new electric vehicle for the Recreation Department. This will replace a 2004 former Police Department vehicle and save over two tons of greenhouse gas emissions per year, in addition to saving money on fuel and maintenance.

Council Member Nancy Moore suggested that the branding on the vehicle indicate that it is being fueled with 100% renewable power (as all city facilities are) and Council Member Sean Malone expressed support as well as support for further investments in the Recreation Department.

The motion was made by Nancy Moore and seconded by Sean Malone and passed unanimously.

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Request to Approve NOPEC Grant Acceptance

The Committee was asked to approve the acceptance of the annual Energized Community Grant from the Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council. NOPEC decreased the grant amount, which is based on the number of households in the City that participate in the aggregation program, from \$7 to \$5 per account. This resulted in a decrease from previous years' grants that exceed \$50,000 to \$38,264.

Each year the funds are allocated to an energy efficiency project and this year it will be for the replacement of the building automation system at Fire Station #1. The old system is obsolete and a new system will increase both energy efficiency and occupant comfort.

The motion to accept was made by Nancy Moore and seconded by Norman Robbins and passed unanimously.

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Request to Approve Coventry Land Contract

The Committee was asked to approve the consulting contract renewal for Coventry Land Company LLC for the Sustainability Coordinator position. The original contract was awarded through a competitive RFP. This position supports the Sustainability Committee and its subcommittees. CAO Chaikin highlighted some of the work including utility bill tracking, LED streetlight analysis, electric vehicle acquisition, and LEED for Cities certification.

The motion was made by Norman Robbins and seconded by Nancy Moore and passed unanimously.

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Determination of EV Charging Rates at City Chargers

The City's electric vehicle chargers are in the process of being installed and will shortly be available for use by the public. The City Administration would like the operation to be revenue neutral and has asked the Committee to opine on what rate should be charged.

The City's current cost of electricity varies slightly from building to building (due to the amortization of fixed fees over the amount of electricity consumed and demand charges) but it generally \$0.12 to \$0.13 per kWh. The charger software can collect fees per kWh and this is also permitted by the State

and Public Utilities Commission. There is also a cost for the software of \$11 per charger port per month. The first year cost of the software was included with the grant funding, but the Administration would like to collect this amount from current operations to pay for the subsequent year. A model was shared that estimated the use of the chargers and a suggested price of \$0.20 per kWh was proposed.

Council Member Nancy Moore asked about attracting non-resident drivers and any implication for availability to Shaker Heights residents; the chargers are expected to help drive traffic to local businesses and benefit residents who live in multi-family properties and may not have access to charging at home. Currently there is sufficient capacity but the software would allow us to create mechanisms to favor residents if needed.

Chair Anne Williams asked if the software would allow us to know if drivers are Shaker Heights residents but it does not disclose any personally identifiable information in line with privacy guidelines.

The Mayor noted that capacity is probably not yet an issue but the chargers will be attractive and a differentiator for our businesses to attract customers.

Citizen Member Norman Robbins asked about encouraging residents to include charging into their homes and to purchase electric vehicles. The expectation is that the chargers will increase awareness of the availability of EVs and the ability of all residents to use EVs because they will have access to charging.

Pricing can be changed at any time by the City through the software. The price is indicated in the app used to access the stations (and available for free, the chargers have a QR code to download the app).

The rate can be set administratively and no vote was required.

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Subcommittee Updates

- Stormwater & Greenspace (Carmen Franks)
 - Subcommittee Chair Carmen Franks noted that work continues on The Nature Center’s residential lawn certification program, a process for “growing not mowing” on certain City parcels, and the website.

- Renewable Energy (Norman Robbins)
 - The subcommittee organized a community Zoom meeting on residential solar panels in conjunction with the Solar United Neighbors group that is organizing the County’s Solar Co-op. Subcommittee member Chris Kerr provided a portion of the presentation and discussed his installation on a slate roof as well as monitoring energy consumption. Approximately 45 attended and the reactions were very positive.

- High School Advisory Group (Julianne Potter)
 - The group is planning an environmental challenge for the community to coincide with Earth Day.

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Update on LEED for Cities

The initial review of the submission was received and the quality and overall organization was commended by the Green Building Certification Institute. There are four items to review and then submit for final certification, which requires a document from Cleveland Water. City of Cleveland Office of Sustainability has been very helpful in the process and there has been collaboration as both cities are pursuing certification.

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There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:55 A.M. The next meeting is scheduled for March 11, 2021 at 8:00am.

Michael Peters
Sustainability Coordinator